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DAHLIAS

• 1924 •

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Department of Agriculture



DAHLIA GORDON BLANDING

Grown by

E. A. ASMUS

BELVEDERE,

MARIN CO., CAL.

Advance Retail List for 1924

We sell *field grown roots only*, no plants or *pot roots* offered for sale.

We ship only *selected A No. 1 tubers*, showing eyes or sprouts.

We guarantee our stock to be absolutely *true to name*.

We *don't substitute*, and if sold out on a variety ordered, will cheerfully *refund remittance*.

Terms: Cash with order. Remittances may be made by post office money order or by check.

All retail orders will be sent charges prepaid, either by Parcel Post or Express, according to size of package.

Order early to avoid disappointment, as stock of many novelties and older favorites is exceedingly scarce.

To be up to date try our new Dahlias of our introduction of 1923-4. You cannot go wrong with any of these new Dahlias. Everyone is O. K., having received Certificates of Merit at the Dahlia Society of California trial gardens at Berkeley and the American Dahlia Society trial gardens at College Park, Md.

Culture of Dahlias

The Dahlia is one of the easiest of all flowers to cultivate and will produce more flowers than any other plant grown, flowering all Summer and Fall if the simple cultural directions are followed closely. They can be grown in any good garden soil, but if possible, plant in an open, sunny situation. Prepare the soil thoroughly by digging 12 to 18 inches deep in the Fall, if possible, and again in the Spring. Plant any time between April 20th and June 15th, digging holes 6 inches deep and from 3 to 4 feet apart. Then lay in the tuber flat on its side, the side of which makes no difference as long as it has one strong eye or sprout. Cover 3 inches deep, thus leaving the hole one half full, to be filled after plant comes up 6 to 8 inches above the ground.

As soon as the plant is large enough, cut out the top of it just above the second or third set of leaves, which causes the plant to grow a stout branch, at the base of each of the four or six leaves left. Just as soon as the plants are up the most important thing to do is to keep the soil loose and mellow by hoeing or cultivating once or twice a week, and just as soon after each rain as the soil will permit. As soon as the buds appear, stop all cultivation and give the beds a mulch of rotted manure, leaves, etc. Water the beds and plants thoroughly once or twice a week, and especially during the dry weather. Tie each plant to a strong stake so it may have a strong support. To have the greatest success is to keep them growing but as strong and sturdy as possible. Never allow the faded flowers to remain on the plant, but cut them off with as much stem or stalk as you can. To have larger blooms it is necessary to disbud, leaving the center bud, and taking off the side ones, leaving a stem approximately 18 inches long. Dahlias will continue to bloom until a heavy frost kills the tops in late Fall, after which the tops are cut off and the roots are dug and stored in a frost-proof cellar or basement, covering with dry soil, sand or anything that will keep them from shriveling. Divide in the Spring after the eyes begin to show.

You must be Satisfied. We want to make good.

Dahlias of our Introduction



Dahlia Gordon Blanding

DAHLIA GORDON BLANDING. Pronounced by experts to be one of the finest Decorative Dahlias. It is very large and full, measuring nine inches in diameter. When the flower first opens it is a light roseline purple, changing when fully opened to roseline pink, the color of the Enchantress Carnation; of fine substance, a variety quite distinctive in the Dahlia family. It is medium to tall, vigorous grower and prolific bloomer. The stems are long and strong, holding the large flowers erect above a vigorous plant. A valuable and useful cut and exhibition variety. Awarded Certificate of Merit by the American Dahlia Society and the Dahlia Society of California, and other high honors wherever exhibited.

Selected field grown tubers, \$7.50 each.

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 3, 1923.

E. A. Asmus,
Belvedere, Cal.

Dear Sir:

The Gordon Blanding purchased of you this Spring is now ten feet high, and bearing remarkably fine blooms. Am very much pleased with it. If you have anything more as good, would like to know about it.

Sincerely yours,

131 South Ave.

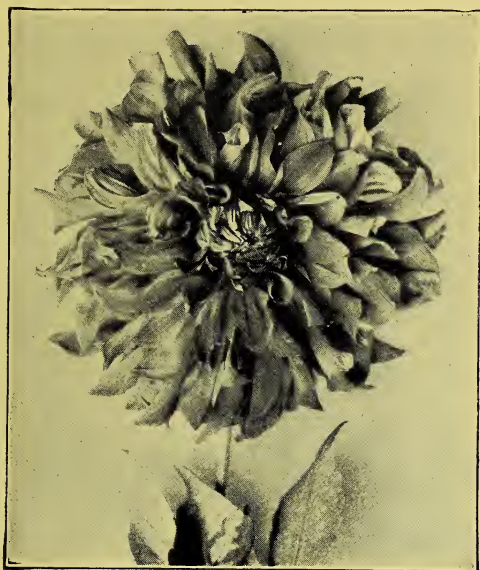
W. D. SMALLHORN.



Mrs. E. A. Asmus

Mrs. E. A. ASMUS. A true rose pink, the flower borne on long stiff stems, a Decorative of medium size, especially adapted for cut flowers for florists' use. An excellent keeper, wonderful free bloomer, and splendid bedding variety. Awarded Certificate of Merit, 1922, at College Park, Md., trial gardens, receiving 90 points. Prof. J. P. S. Norton says it is one of the few good pinks. Stock limited.

Tubers \$5.00 each.



Belvedere

BELVEDERE (D.). Rich carmine, a garden and exhibition variety. A splendid exhibition variety; the flowers can be had nine inches in diameter without dis-budding, and are held erect on very stiff stems. A very free bloomer. Awarded Certificate of Merit by Dahlia Society of California, 1922. Stock limited.

Tubers \$10.00 each.

BETH. A show variety of delicate pink, shading to a deeper pink at the edges, an excellent cut-flower variety of good keeping qualities. Tubers \$3.50 each.

CLIFF CRAGS. A large decorative scarlet shading to burnt orange; the flowers borne on stiff stems. Awarded Certificate of Merit by the Dahlia Society of California. Tubers \$10.00 each.

GERTRUDE. A pure white peony flowered variety, a fine bedder and a very free bloomer. Tubers \$3.50 each.

MARGUERITE. Decorative, rose suffused with lavender, the color of a Cattleya Orchid, shading to golden yellow at the base of florets. Tubers \$5.00 each.

THE EVELYN. Show, a large bright yellow borne on stiff stems and a free bloomer. Tubers \$3.50 each.

California Dahlias

The Best Introductions of Other Growers.

C—Cactus. *H. C.*—Hybrid Cactus. *D.*—Decorative.
Sh.—Show. *H. Sh.*—Hybrid Show. *Pae.*—Peony
flowering. *F.*—Fancy.

C. AMUN. RA. (D.). A large Exhibition Decorative with gorgeous shades of copper and orange, shading to gold and amber, is a very attractive flower and a good keeper when cut for decorative purposes and are on perfect upright stems. \$3.50.

DELICE (D.). Beautiful glowing rose-pink, fine cut flower. 35c each.

DR. TEVIS (D.). A beautiful shade of soft salmon-rose, suffused with old gold shading to a golden apricot center. The immense flowers are held erect on strong, long stems. \$1.00 each.

GEORGE WALTERS (H. C.). Salmon pink and yellow, fine stem. 75c each.

INSULINDE (H. C.). The acme of perfection in a Dahlia. Its color is a rich golden orange suffused with bronze and apricot shadings. The flowers are carried on the top of the stems like Chrysanthemums. \$1.50.

LA FAVORITA (H. C.). A splendid variety of brilliant orange. Good for cutting. \$1.00.

MRS. CARL SALBACH (D.). Immense blooms of a lavender pink color, on exceptionally strong stems, a perfect exhibition and cut-flower variety; one of the best. \$1.00.

MABEL TAFT (D.). A graceful and beautiful shade; yellow suffused with apricot; very attractive in the garden, the plant having fine form, displaying the blooms on perfect upright stem. 75c.

[California Dahlias, *continued*]

- MILLIONAIRE (*D.*). Immense flowers of unusual depth, fine stems. Color a delicate lavender with a faint pink cast overshadowing it. \$1.00.
- MRS. F. C. BURNS (*D.*). A shell pink decorative of fine habits, excellent grower and cut-flower variety. 75c.
- MRS. RICHARD LOHRMAN (*H. C.*). A fine California variety, a great exhibition flower; one of the best; a bright yellow of beautiful formation, on a long upright stem. \$1.50.
- MRS. W. E. ESTES (*H. C.*). Large pure snow white Hybrid of lovely form carried on long stems. \$1.50.
- MRS. JESSIE SEAL (*Pae.*). A novelty of sterling merit; magnificent old rose with golden shadings, on strong stems held high above the foliage; an excellent cut-flower and exhibition variety. \$1.00.
- PAUL MICHAEL (*D.*). Deep orange buff, shading to old rose on reverse of petals. This is the largest in diameter in decoratives and a prize winner each season. \$3.50.
- PRIDE OF CALIFORNIA (*D.*). This is the best red decorative for all purposes. It has size, stem and splendid keeping qualities when cut. \$1.00.
- SHUDOW'S LAVENDER (*D.*). 1921 Introduction of great merit. Large splendid bloom of silvery lavender slightly shading to white. Held on long stiff stems well above its attractive lace-like foliage. A great prize winner. \$5.00.
- THE MILLIONAIRE (*D.*). Mammoth flowers of delicate lavender pink. \$1.00.
- TOM LUNDY (*H. C.*). Large flowers of rich dark velvety crimson, on good stems. This Dahlia does exceptionally well in a warm climate. 75c.

[California Dahlias, continued]

SENORITA (*D.*). A new introduction of a giant decorative Dahlia, was awarded a Silver Medal in the 3-year-old Seedling Class, at the Palace Hotel Show in San Francisco; also First Prize in the same class at the California Horticultural Exposition (growing exhibit) in Los Angeles. Each bloom, held absolutely erect on extra strong stem, measures from 9-10 inches across; of perfect form until late in the season. A rich velvety crimson, just the color to match the dark Spanish type of the "Senoritas" of the days of old. Price \$3.00 each.

THE ORIOLE (*Pae.*). This novelty is a very striking Peony of a most remarkable combination of burnt orange, red and yellow. A wonderful blending of Autumn colorings. These show blossoms are very large and are held erect on fine long stiff stems.

\$3.50.



Pom Pom Dahlias

This class produces small double flowers in great profusion. Splendid for cutting, lasting for five days in the home.

AMBER QUEEN.	Deep amber.	35c.
CHEERFULNESS.	Old gold tipped crimson.	35c.
DARKEYE.	White, lavender tips.	50c.
EILLEN.	White, lavender tips.	50c.
GIRLIE.	Pinkish mauve.	35c.
LITTLE BUGLER.	Purple.	50c.
LITTLE DEAR.	Old rose shading to salmon.	50c.
ORANGE.	Deep orange shade.	35c.
PURE LOVE.	Heliotrope, the best of its shade.	35c.
KITTY BARRETT.	Golden, purple edged.	50c.
POM POM DAHLIAS,	assorted varieties named "My Se- lection."	Price 35c each, \$3.50 per doz.

California Hybridized Dahlia Seed

This seed is scientifically bred, and is raised from California's finest and largest prize-winning varieties, which are the finest in the world. This mixture contains all types and colors. Our rainless summers around San Francisco Bay makes it possible to produce hybridized seed of the very highest quality. Dahlias grow very easily from seed and new varieties are produced in this manner.

The seed we have sent out in previous years have produced many superior varieties, of which some of the letters attached bear testimony.

Price per 100 seeds, private stock, \$3.00.

Price per 50 seeds, private stock, \$1.50.



Pom Pom Dahlia Seed

This class produces small double flowers in great profusion. Splendid for cutting, owing to their keeping qualities.

Price per 100 seeds, \$1.50.

Newnan, Ga., Oct. 19th, 1923.

Mr. E. A. Asmus,

Dear Sir:

Last Spring my wife ordered a package of 50 seeds of your Dahlias, and as they have created such a sensation with the Dahlia growers here, I thought it would be of interest to you to know of our success. We got 47 plants from the package of seed and while every plant is more than satisfactory, we have some magnificent blooms. This is a city with a great many Dahlia growers who have shown in the fairs and have taken a good many premiums. Mrs. Zellars, who wrote you recently, took a prize in Atlanta last week and said if we had shown our Dahlias we would have taken first on at least three. We have handsome blooms in Maroon Yellow,

Henna and Maroon tipped with Henna, a White Col-
larette and a Lilac handsomer than The Millionaire,
according to a number of competent judges. A number
of ladies have asked for your address and I know you
will have a number of orders from here next Spring. I
want you to save for me a package of 100 seed for next
season.

Very truly,

E. S. BUCHANAN.

Warrenton, Va., Oct. 31st, 1923.

Mr. E. A. Asmus,
Belvedere, Calif.

My Dear Mr. Asmus:

A friend of mine here in Warrenton got a packet of
Dahlia seed from you this Spring; 50 seed for \$1.50.
I never saw more beautiful varieties than those she
raised. She gave me some of the seedlings and I, too,
got beautiful Dahlias, one specially lovely yellow, large
and an exquisite shade. It was prettier to me than
Leo XIII or Yellow King. I also had some beautiful
pinks and reds.

MRS. CHAS. T. HERNDON.



Join the Dahlia Society of California

The annual dues are two dollars, which includes all
the privileges of the Society and bulletins. Secretary
H. T. Henning, 621 Third Avenue, San Francisco,
California, will be pleased to receive applications for
membership.

